



At Home

1. Cut your recreation costs way down with fun and games at home. Your family will grow closer.
2. Enjoy human and natural environments, rather than depending upon purchased pleasures. Instead of buying expensive tickets to something, take a drive or tour an area that you have not previously visited.
3. Start slips from some of your plants; pot them for gifts.
4. Use some of your homemade jams and jellies for gifts.
5. Plan carefully and thoroughly as the first step in economical decorating.
6. Buy furniture at auctions, garage sales, or second-hand shops.
7. Learn how to refinish furniture.
8. Learn to make window coverings, bedspreads, slipcovers, and table covers.
9. Learn to clean, repair, and restore household items yourself.
10. Make dry flower arrangements from garden flowers, wild flowers, and decorative grasses.
11. Buy household equipment the entire family can operate and care for.



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12. Trade home skills, work, or baby sitting with a friend or neighbor.

13. Take advantage of learning opportunities: school, workshops, fairs, libraries, home shows, Extension meetings, and other adult-education courses.

14. Strive for an attitude of “less is more” — simple possessions, rather than living with a clutter of endless things to maintain, clean, etc.

15. Have a garage or yard sale.

16. Entertain simply at home.

17. Buy things that require as little maintenance as possible.

18. Consider remodeling, rather than building a new home.

19. Watch for phone call overages. Consider reviewing and updating phone plans depending on usage.

20. Wash and wax your own car.

21. Read magazines and books from the library. Cancel book club memberships and magazine subscriptions, especially for those which remain unread for a long time.

22. Buy a family-expense record book. Keep track, item by item, where the money goes every day, week, and month. Go over this spending record periodically with the rest of the family and decide together how to plug up some of those money leaks.

23. Take advantage of free community activities. Events such as workshops, concerts, and parks and recreation activities are often free or with only a small charge.

Source: Kentucky Extension Specialists and Associates for Family and Consumer Sciences

August 2008

For more information contact your county Extension office or visit our online Moneywise site at:

<http://ces.ca.uky.edu/moneywise/>

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